

QA-634  
Fillmore Hotel  
117 Pier Avenue  
Stevensville Vicinity  
Queen Anne's County, Maryland

Constructed ca. 1913, ca. 1950  
Private

Located on the north side of Pier Avenue and west of the southern shore of Lake Matapex on Kent Island, the Fillmore Hotel is a one-and-a-half story front-gabled wood frame house, three bays wide and five bays deep, with continuous shed dormers. It has a single-story shed-roofed porch on the front façade, and an enclosed single-story wrap-around porch on the northwest corner of the main block. Original architectural details include triangular four-by-four wood brackets at the peaks and corners of the house, exposed rafter tails, six over one sash windows and tapered Tuscan porch columns.

The Fillmore Hotel is significant for its association with summertime recreational activity in Love Point during its heyday, the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. Although renovated into a single-family home, it retains many original features, including room numbers over the second-floor doorways.

The Fillmore Hotel is the only surviving hotel in Love Point. Its location was convenient to the Love Point ferry and train terminal, as well as Lake Matapex, a haven for recreational boaters and swimmers. The hotel harkens back to the era when this area was a major summer destination. The current building replaced a larger two-and-a-half story hotel constructed on the property three years earlier. The smaller, simpler replacement was perhaps an acknowledgment by the owners that the hoped-for tourist bonanza was not going to happen. The building is currently owned by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and its future is uncertain.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. QA-634

### 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Fillmore Hotel (preferred)  
other 117 Pier Avenue

### 2. Location

street and number 117 Pier Avenue     not for publication  
city, town Stevensville X vicinity  
county Queen Anne's

### 3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name State of Maryland for the Department of Natural Resources  
street and number 580 Taylor Ave. #4 telephone 410-758-0839  
city, town Annapolis state MD zip code 21401-2352

### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Queen Anne's County Courthouse liber SM 1747 folio 115  
city, town Centreville tax map 40 tax parcel 15 tax ID number 04-025067

### 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Contributing Resource in National Register District  
    Contributing Resource in Local Historic District  
    Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
    Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
    Recorded by HABS/HAER  
    Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT  
    Other:

### 6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function		Resource Count	
<u>   </u> district	<u>   </u> public	<u>   </u> agriculture	<u>   </u> landscape	Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>X</u> building(s)	<u>X</u> private	<u>   </u> commerce/trade	<u>   </u> recreation/culture	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u> buildings
<u>   </u> structure	<u>   </u> both	<u>   </u> defense	<u>   </u> religion	<u>   </u>	<u>   </u> sites
<u>   </u> site		<u>X</u> domestic	<u>   </u> social	<u>   </u>	<u>   </u> structures
<u>   </u> object		<u>   </u> education	<u>   </u> transportation	<u>   </u>	<u>   </u> objects
		<u>   </u> funerary	<u>   </u> work in progress	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u> Total
		<u>   </u> government	<u>   </u> unknown		
		<u>   </u> health care	<u>   </u> vacant/not in use		
		<u>   </u> industry	<u>   </u> other:		
				Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory	
				<u>0</u>	

## 7. Description

Inventory No. QA-634

### Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Fillmore Hotel is a one-and-one-half story front gable wood frame building with continuous shed dormers, three bays wide and five bays deep. A large one-story screened porch covers the front entryway. The building sits on a continuous brick foundation that extends approximately one-and-one-half feet above the surrounding grade.

The southeast (front) façade is dominated by the one story wood porch that spans the width of the building, which measures thirty feet across. The porch is built on brick piers that extend one foot above grade. The spaces between the three piers across the front have been enclosed with brick screening, which is visible in a ca. 1960 postcard of the property. Entry into the porch is via cement walkway, steps and wood screen door aligned to the left of the center bay of the building. The porch floor is tongue and groove one-by-three inch wood. The screen panels on the porch are framed in wood in a square pattern, three squares high extending from floor to ceiling, eleven squares wide on the front and four squares deep on the two sides of the porch. The porch roof is supported by three Tuscan-style hollow cylindrical wood columns along the front, with two additional half-round Tuscan pilasters at the intersection between the porch and house. The columns are raised on square plinth. The shafts of the columns are slightly tapered. The simple entablature that supports the porch roof is a wood beam with a simple cove molding at the intersection between the beam and porch ceiling. The ceiling of the porch is tongue and groove beaded paneling. The eaves of the porch are open, revealing two-by-eight inch rafters. The ends of the rafters are covered with a fascia board, with a small crown molding applied at the intersection of the fascia and roof overhang. The shed roof of the porch is covered with asphalt shingles. The exterior wall under the porch roof is sheathed with drop lap German siding. The rest of the house has been covered with vinyl lap siding. The fenestration on the first floor consists of twin six-over-one wood sash windows centered in the southwest and northeast bays. The entrance is a pair of full-view fifteen-pane French doors centered in the middle bay. The trim around the door and windows, here and throughout the original parts of the building, are one-and-one-quarter inch wide with a half inch bead. The second floor fenestration consists of twin one-over-one wood sash windows centered in the middle bay, directly under the peak of the roof. The cheeks of the northeast and southeast dormers have a single-pane square casement window located towards the face of each dormer. The eaves of the gable and shed dormers project away from the house with flying rafters. Chamfered four-by-four inch wood brackets are located at the peak of the roof, and at the outside corners of the dormers to support the flying rafters. The ends of these brackets project beyond the flying rafter approximately three inches.

The northeast elevation measures fifty feet six inches and clearly shows the brick foundation of the main block. A large unused metal fuel tank rests on the ground under the porch, which was probably used for heating oil. A later above-ground model fuel tank is located in front of the middle bay of the building. The fenestration of the first floor consists of six-over-one wood sash windows centered in each of the bays except the second bay from the left (SE), which has a twin six-over-one wood sash window. All of the first-floor windows have been covered with aluminum storms windows. Vinyl lap siding covers this and the remaining elevations. The eaves of the main roof and dormer roof are open, with exposed rafter tails and no fascia board. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The fenestration of the dormer consists of twin one-over-one wood sash windows centered in each of the five bays, but the set in the southeast bay is a slightly smaller vinyl replacement.

The northwest (rear) elevation of the building consists of the main block and an enclosed porch on the southwest bay. A doorway to a partial basement is located to the left of the center bay of the main block. Several steps lead down to a concrete floor that must have been poured at some point in the past few decades. The door looks original, and is four-panel with four small square lights above. The brick walls in the basement are consistent with the exterior brick foundations. The fenestration of the first floor consists of a six-over-one wood sash window in the northeast bay and a small three-pane casement window in the center bay. Two four-over-one wood sash windows are located side by side under the peak of the roof, and single-pane casements identical to those on the front façade of the building are located in the sides of the two dormers. A cast iron vent pipe is next to the eastern second-floor window, as well as a vent flap above the same window indicates that this is where an upstairs bathroom is located. Chamfered wood brackets identical to those on the front facade are located in the same places, except that the bracket under the peak seems to have been removed at some point in time, more than likely when the vinyl siding was installed. A back porch ten feet deep wraps around the southwest corner of the house. The porch is built on brick piers that were filled in at a later date with cinderblock on the sides. The

## 8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____

**Specific dates** 1900-1945

**Architect/Builder** unknown

**Construction dates** 1900

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The Fillmore Hotel was built in 1917 to replace an earlier, larger hotel that burned down that same year.<sup>1</sup> The older Fillmore Hotel was two-and-a-half stories with a rooftop deck that was used for dancing. It was owned and run by Captain and Mrs. Fillmore Legg, and their daughter, May Legg, was the hostess.<sup>2</sup> When the hotel was destroyed, the current building was rebuilt near the old hotel foundation but in a different orientation. The old hotel was built parallel to the railroad tracks and faced Lake Matapex, the new hotel was turned ninety degrees so the front faced Pier Avenue, perhaps because of the increasing prevalence of automobile traffic. In 1914, rooms were rented out for \$4 per week, swimsuits could be rented for \$.45, and three meals a day cost \$1.50.<sup>3</sup> By 1930, May Legg had inherited the property and she ran it with the assistance of her nephew, Fillmore G. Kemp, and perhaps two boarders who lived at the hotel.<sup>4</sup> The hotel was inherited by Fillmore Kemp and he sold it in 1957 to Joseph and Betty Sue Jarboe, who continued to operate the hotel until they sold it in 1985. The property languished and hopes of reopening the property as a hotel did not materialize. Subsequent owners used it as a private residence, but left many of the architectural details intact.

Love Point was a prime destination for summer vacationers of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, particularly from Baltimore, who sought respite from hot, overcrowded city life. Regular steamboat ferries transported vacationers from Light Street in Baltimore to the eastern tip of Love Point, where a large pier had been built by the Maryland, Delaware and Virginia Railroad. From the pier, passengers could disembark to visit for the day or they could stay overnight at a handful of hotels, including the largest, the Love Point Hotel. The railroad connected Love Point to Lewes, Delaware, making it an integral method of transporting goods to and from Baltimore before the advent of the interstate highway system and the construction of the Bay Bridge. The construction of the Love Point Hotel ca. 1900 created an opportunity for two large developers, who subdivided what had been farmland into hundreds of small building lots intended for vacation homes. However, a combination of fluctuating market conditions, substantial land erosion due to storms, and the discontinuation of ferry and train service prior to World War II led to stagnant sales. During the economic downturn of the 1930s and '40s, many owners were forced into foreclosure for unpaid property taxes. As highways leading to Atlantic beaches improved, travelers opted to drive themselves rather than the combination of ferry and train via Love Point. The last passenger ferry, known as "Smokey Joe," stopped operation in 1947. Love Point was all but forgotten in the latter half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, but property prices in the area have risen sharply in the last decade due to the demand in waterfront property.

<sup>1</sup> Bettye Speed. "Famed Hotel Remembered." Chesapeake Courier, 21 October 1987.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Queen Anne Record Observer, 20 June 1990. Page 4B.

<sup>4</sup> Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930. Enumeration District 18-7, Sheet 9A.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. QA-634

"Era to Pass With Last Puff of Smokey Joe." Washington Post, 31 August 1947. Page M7.  
Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930.  
Freedman, Janet. Kent Island: The Land That Once Was Eden. Baltimore: Maryland Historical Society, 2002.  
"I Remember When . . .": Folk History of Queen Anne's County." Centreville: Queen Anne's Record Observer, 1985.  
Tilghman, Mary K. "The Love Point Hotel," in The Last Hotel: Eastern Shore Summers and a Vanished Way of Life. Wye Mills, Md.: Chesapeake College Press, 1985.  
Speed, Bettye. "Famed Hotel Remembered." Chesapeake Courier, 21 October 1987.  
Queen Anne Record Observer, 20 June 1990. Page 4B.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property	<u>.89 acres</u>	
Acreage of historical setting	<u>.89 acres</u>	
Quadrangle name	<u>Love Point</u>	Quadrangle scale: <u>1:24,000</u>

### Verbal boundary description and justification

The property consists of the original metes and bounds as laid out by the Love Point Beach & Park Co. in 1914.

## 11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Kees de Mooy and Amanda Apple, Historic Preservation Planner		
organization	QA Co. Dept. of Land Use, Growth Management & Environment	date	7/21/2008
street & number	160 Coursevall Drive	telephone	410-758-1255
city or town	Centreville	state	Maryland

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Maryland Department of Planning  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600



# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. QA-634

Name: Fillmore Hotel  
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 1

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rear of the porch foundation has been closed in with removable plywood panels, which provide access to the crawlspace. The sides of the porch are sheathed with vinyl siding, except the area under the shed roof, which is covered with grooved plywood (T-111). The window on the northeast side of the porch is a ca. 1950 metal combination unit, consisting of a twin casement with rectangular transom units above and below. The fenestration in the rear of the porch consists of two units identical to the metal combination unit on the northeast side. The shed roof of the porch is covered with asphalt three-tab shingles.

The southwest elevation of the building consists of the wrap-around porch on the northwest corner, the main block of the hotel and the side of the front porch. The southwest side of the rear porch has a set of treated wood steps leading up to a narrow five-panel door, which looks like it came from the interior of the house. The door is on the north side, with a metal combination casement unit to the south. The unit has operational casement windows with four horizontal panes on the left and right, and a wider picture window in the center. The southeast side of the porch has an identical unit in the middle of the wall. The shed roof of the porch terminates at the same intersecting point under the dormer as the roof of the main block. The remaining windows on the first floor of the main block consist of single six-over-one wood sash window in the center bay, and two twin six-over-one wood sash windows in the two southern bays. The dormer fenestration matches that of the other side, but none of these windows have been replaced. The only difference between the roof profiles on the northeast and southeast sides of the building is that the rafter tails of the main roof on the southwest side have been covered with a fascia board.

An examination of historical photographs of the property shows that a large evergreen tree to the south of the walkway leading up to the house may date back to the construction of the house. At the rear of the property is the remains of a cinderblock and brick retaining wall and stairs that lead to a low-lying swale, which leads to the southern tip of Lake Matapex.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. QA-634

Name Fillmore Hotel

### Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 1

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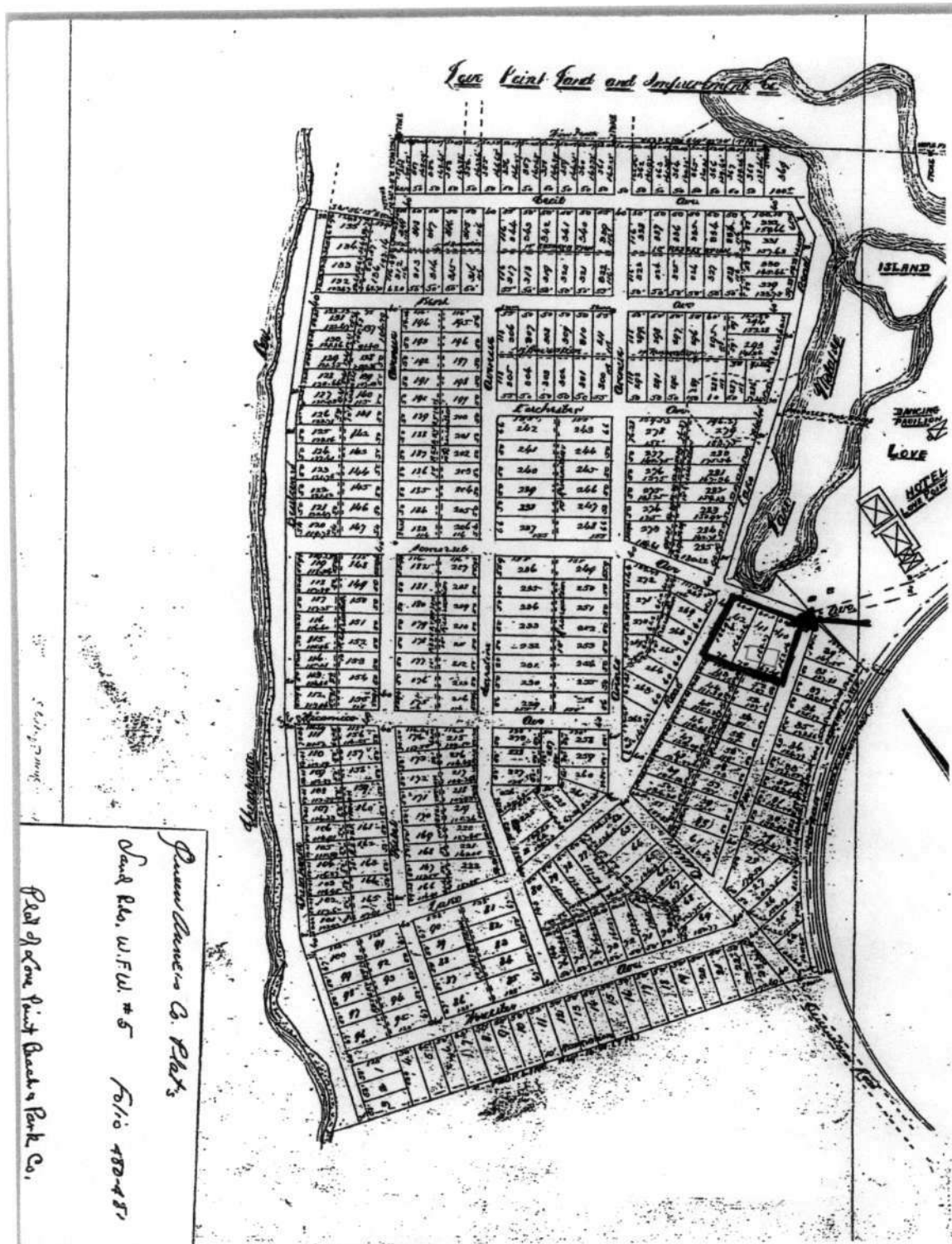
Dec. 12, 2007	SM 1747/115 Transfer to MD Department of Natural Resources From Atchafalaya Holdings, LLP \$7,200,000 for multiple properties
Nov. 6, 2002	SM 984/198 Transfer to Atchafalaya Holdings, LLP From C. J. Langenfelder & Son, Inc. \$1,750,000 for 77.65 ac. Including 117 Pier Ave.
Jan. 11, 1996	SM 518/226 Transfer to C. J. Langenfelder & Son, Inc. From John A. Herndon \$152,500 for lots 40, 41, 42, 43, 52 Lots 40, 41, 42 are present boundaries of 117 Pier Avenue Ref: Plat of Love Point Beach and Park Co. WFW 5/480-481
Aug. 17, 1992	SM 403/879 Transfer to John A. Herndon From Raymond S. Dunahugh and Betty Sue Dunahugh, his wife \$175,000 for lots 40, 41, 42, 43, 52
Dec. 21, 1987	MWM 296/451 Transfer to Raymond S. Dunahugh and Betty Sue Dunahugh From Betty Sue Dunahugh (formerly Betty Sue Jarboe)
Mar. 29, 1985	MWM 229/87 Transfer to Joseph Jarboe and Betty Sue Jarboe, his wife From Joseph B. Jarboe, Sr. \$23,000 for lands known as the Hotel Fillmore
Apr. 19, 1957	TSP 34/120 Transfer to Joseph B. Jarboe and Elizabeth M. Jarboe, his wife From Fillmore Goldsborough Kemp Lands known as Hotel Fillmore
May 17, 1915	WTW 7/168 Transfer to Mabel Pearle Legg From Love Point Beach & Park Company Legg left property to Fillmore G. Kemp, her nephew (1930 census) Ref: Will EEC 1/228

QA-634 - Fillmore Hotel

Stevensville vicinity, Queen Anne's County

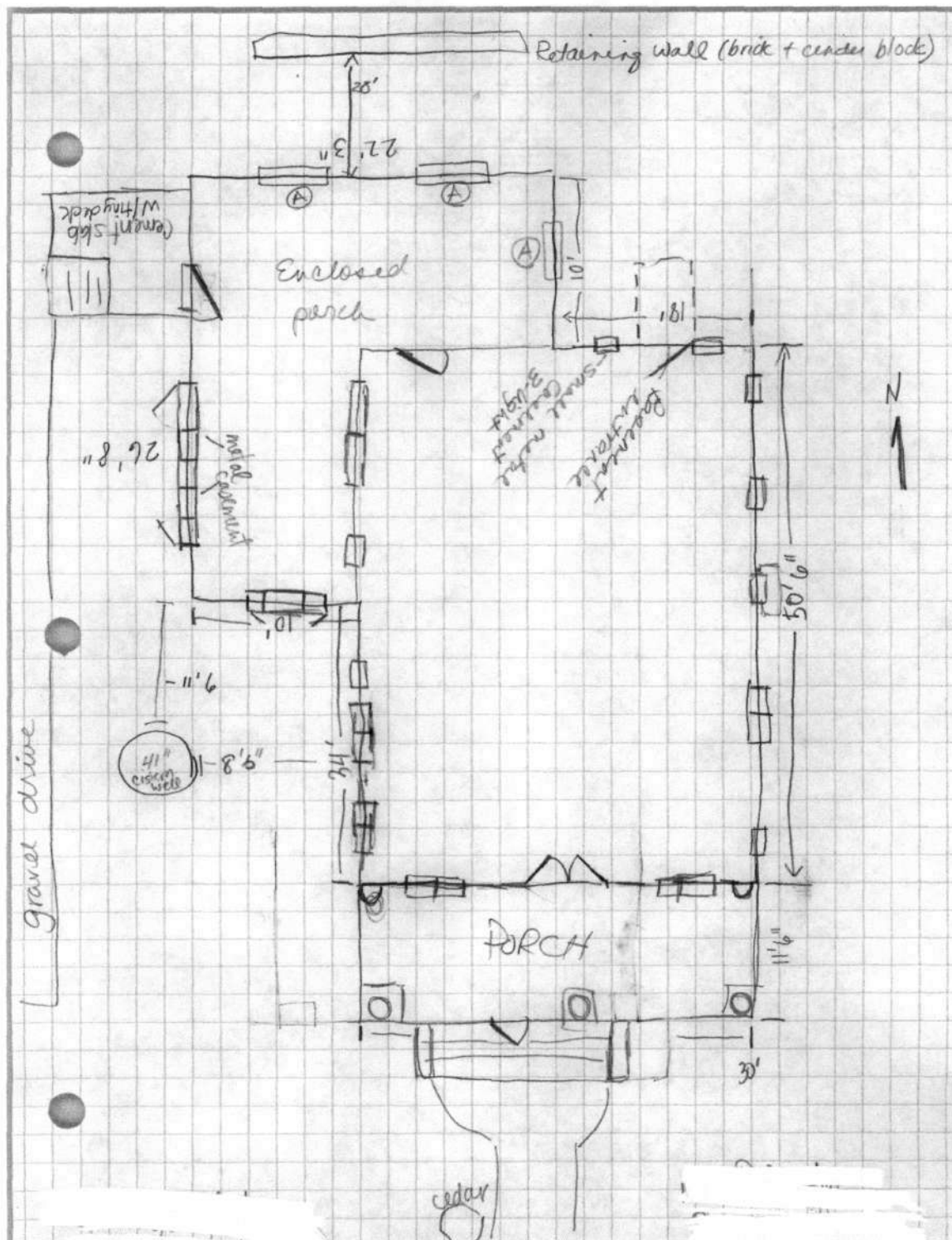
1914 Plat filed by Love Point Beach and Park Company

In Queen Anne's County Land Records, liber WFW 5, folio 480-481





Resource Sketch Map  
QA-634 - Fillmore Hotel  
Stevensville vicinity, Queen Anne's County





QA-634

MAP 41  
MAP 40

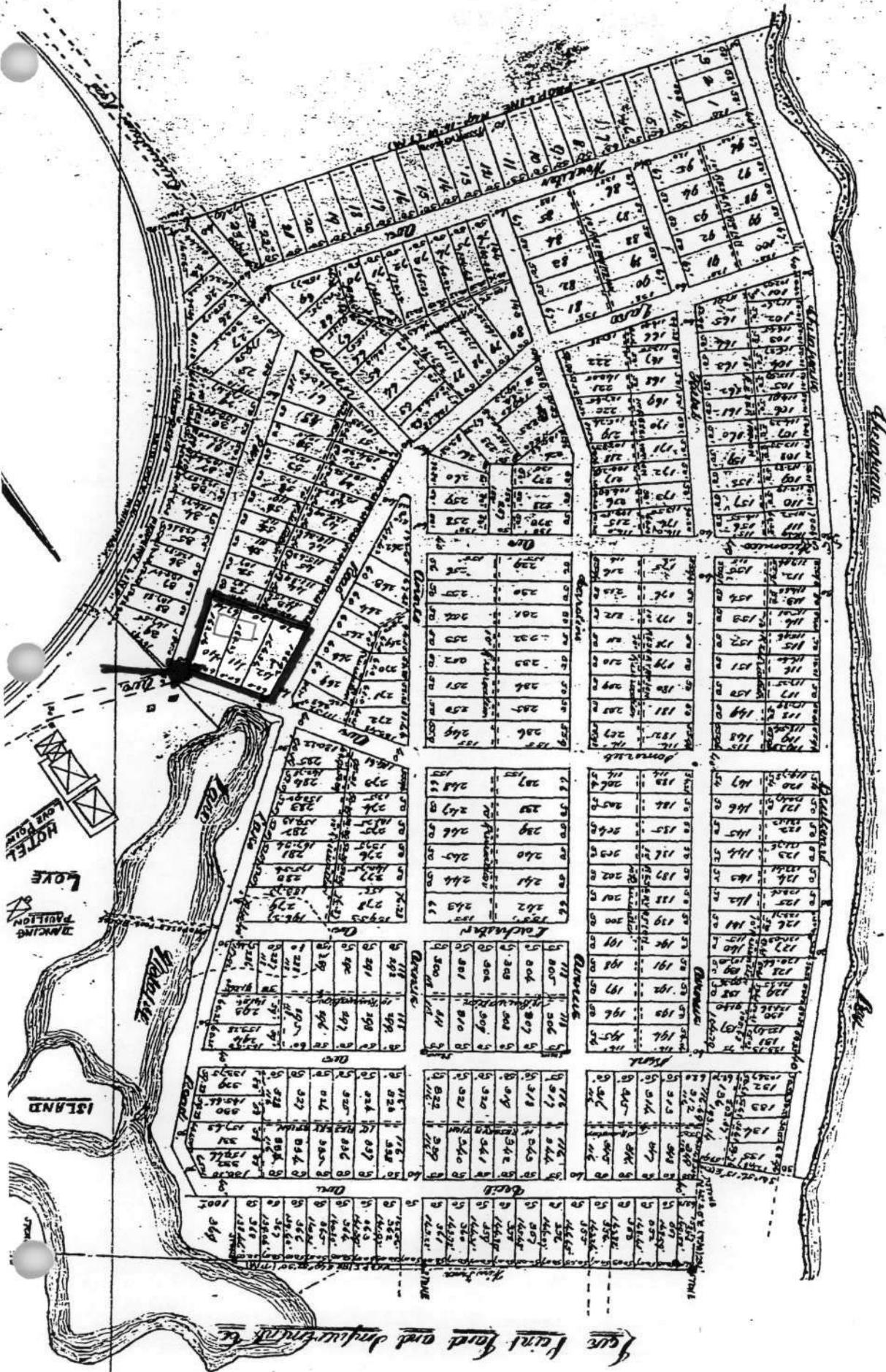
MAP 4C  
MAP 4

PA-634

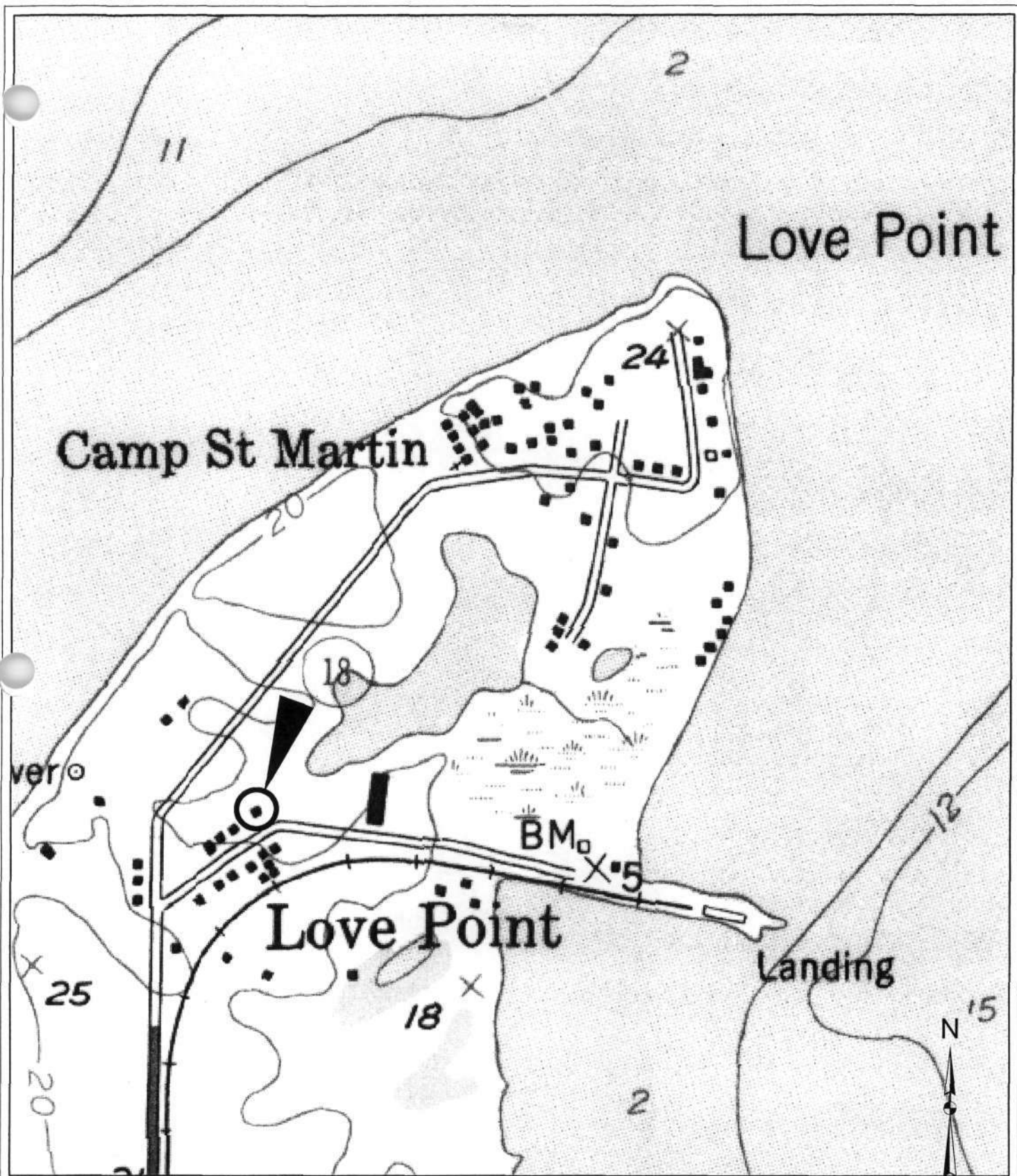
Queen Anne's Co. Plats

Land Pds. W.F.W. #5 Folio 480-481

Plot of Love Point Beach & Park Co.







**QA- 634**

**Fillmore Hotel, 117 Pier Ave  
Stevensville Vicinity, Queen Anne's County Maryland  
Love Point, Maryland Quadrangle (1:24,000)**

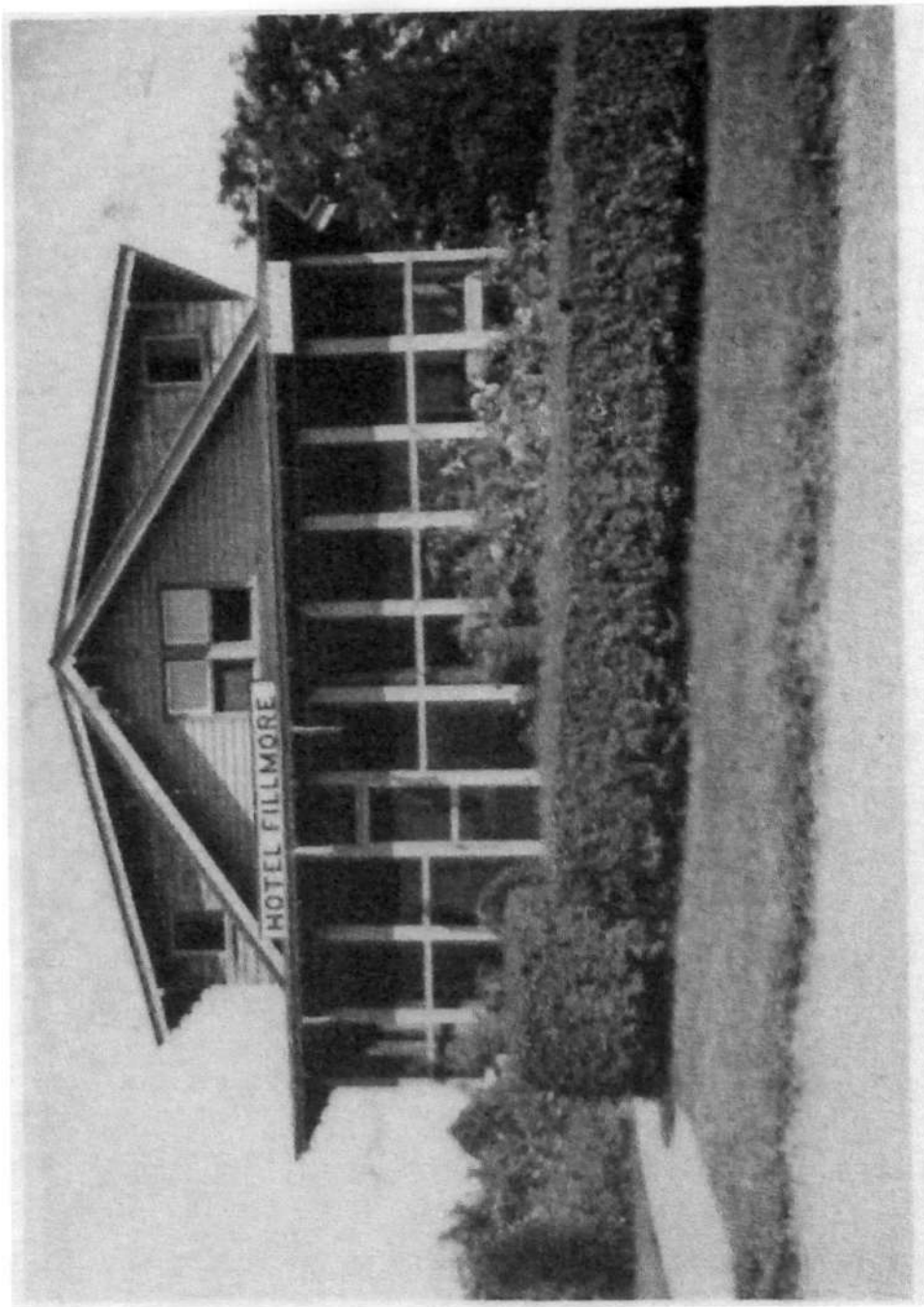
QA-634



*Old Fillmore Hotel, Love Point*



QA-634



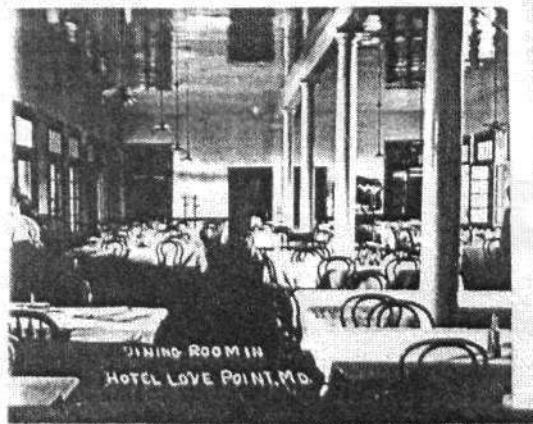
QA-634



QA-634



Old Fillmore Hotel, Love Point



DINING ROOM IN  
HOTEL LOVE POINT, MD.

## Photo Log

QA-634 – Fillmore Hotel, 117 Pier Avenue  
Photos taken July 16, 2008  
By Amanda Apple, Historic Preservation Planner  
Queen Anne's County, MD

Photos printed on Epson Premium Glossy Paper with Epson UltraChrome pigmented inks

File Name(s)	Description
QA-634_2008-07-16_01 QA-634_2008-07-16_01.NEF QA-634_2008-07-16_01.TIF	South (front) façade to left, east elevation to right
QA-634_2008-07-16_02 QA-634_2008-07-16_02.NEF QA-634_2008-07-16_02.TIF	East elevation
QA-634_2008-07-16_03 QA-634_2008-07-16_03.NEF QA-634_2008-07-16_03.TIF	North elevation
QA-634_2008-07-16_04 QA-634_2008-07-16_04.NEF QA-634_2008-07-16_04.TIF	West elevation
QA-634_2008-07-16_05 QA-634_2008-07-16_05.NEF QA-634_2008-07-16_05.TIF	Stairway in main hall from first to second story







QA-634

Fillmore Hotel, Stevensville  
Queen Anne's Co., MD.

QA Dept. of Land Use, etal

July 2008

MD SHPO

South facade (front)

1 of 5



QA-634

Gillmore Hotel, Stevensville

Queen Anne's Co., MD

QAC Dept. of Land Use, et al

July 2008

MD SNPO

East elevation

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QA 634

Fillmore Hotel, Stevensville  
Queen Anne's Co., MD

QAC Dept. of Land Use, et al  
July 2008

MD S&PD

North elevation

3 of 5





QA-634

Fullman Hotel, Stevensville

Queen Anne's Co., 1880

QAC Dept. of Land Use, et al.

July 2008

West elevation

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QA-634

Gillmore Hotel, Stevensville

Queen Anne's Co., MD

QAD Dept of Land Use, et al

July 2008

MD SHPO

Stairway in main hall from first to  
second floor

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